

National HIV Test Day Michigan Observing on June 25, 2004

While National HIV Test Day is Sunday, June 27, 2004, Michigan will be observing it on Friday, June 25. This is a day when local health departments and community-based organizations throughout the state will participate in National Test Day activities. This is one day a year when local health departments and community-based organizations work in collaboration towards one goal, to provide HIV testing opportunities for at-risk populations. These opportunities are provided through mobile clinics, outreach at bars, parks, churches and community-wide events.

This national public awareness campaign is designed to educate the public about HIV counseling, testing and referral, and to encourage more people to assess their risk of HIV infection. This year's National Test Day theme, "Take the Test, Take Control" has been chosen to motivate individuals to be tested and, by learning their test results, if positive, get treatment, and if negative, assess their risk and change behaviors that put them at risk.

Early Detection

Early detection of HIV is vital in our fight against AIDS. There are new medications that can prolong and provide a better quality of life for those who are living with HIV. Early detection can also prevent prenatal transmission, from a pregnant woman to her unborn child. Early detection can contribute to a reduction in risk behavior and the transmission of the virus to other individuals. Early detection is vital. A person knowing his/her HIV status could save their life.

HIV Testing

Testing for HIV is either anonymous or confidential and is offered through a variety of options. Testing using a traditional blood draw which is accurate and safe, or the oral method of a swab of the inside of the mouth, will both provide accurate and painless results. There is also the option for same day HIV test results at some of our testing sites in Michigan. Testing is offered throughout Michigan to accommodate client needs. In Michigan, in testing sites funded by the Department, over 58,000 people get tested for HIV every year.

M I C H I G A N **As of APRIL 1, 2004**

- 16,200 Michigan residents are estimated to be infected with HIV
- Of these, 14,270 are between age 20 and 49
- 75% of those living with HIV, not AIDS, and 80 % of those living with AIDS are male
- 60% of those living with HIV, not AIDS, and 57% of those living with AIDS are African American
- 19% of those living with HIV, not AIDS, and 15% of those living with AIDS were infected through heterosexual contact
- Every County in Michigan has been touched by HIV or AIDS

R E S O U R C E S

To Find HIV Testing in Your Area

Call: 1-800-872-AIDS (2437)

Knowledge is Power

Get Tested, Get the Results

It's Better to Know